the Vilavancode taluk. Similarly, if the Perinchani lake was connected with the Pechippara dam, the northern and western pakuthies of the taluk could get plenty of water through the Right Bank Channel. If this was not sufficient, a dam might be put up at the foot of the Chittar and enough water could be sent by the Right Bank Channel to the northern and western pakuthies of the taluk. If the Chittar dam could not be constructed immediately, an embankment could be easily put up at Azhakal, and it would serve all the immediate needs of the locality. In addition to these, all the tanks in the taluk, more especially the major and minor tanks, should be renovated, and Irrigation Block Boards should be established at the earliest opportunity in the taluk.

The member referred next to the P. W. D. toll-gate in the Kuzhithura municipality. This toll-gate was originally instituted for recovering the expenditure on the Kuzhithura bridge. But the income that was now derived from it was more than enough to cover the cost of maintenance of the whole Main Southern Road. A portion of this huge income should be given to the municipality. In the alternative, the municipality should be allowed to open its own toll-gates.

Besides, the present toll-gate was situated on a sharp descent of the road. Many accidents were likely to occur to passengers unless it was removed from there. It could very well be removed from the town limits and the municipal council might be permitted to have their own toll-gates inside the town.

A small checking toll-gate had recently been opened near the Kuzhithura bridge. On account of the location of the toll-gate at that spot, even vehicles which stopped for rest at the municipal cart-stand near by had to pay a toll of four chackrams each. Early orders should be issued for removing the toll-gate to some other place.

The only person who was exempted from payment of tolls at the Kuzhithura toll-gate was the P. W. D. Section Officer. But the president of the Kuzhithura municipality had to cross and re-cross the toll-gate several times every day for the purpose of his visits round the town. Unless he was also exempted from payment of tolls, he had to pay at least Rs. 22 every month as toll. This was a real hardship.

The member also made the following requests:—

(1) The Martandam—Panachimudu lane should be converted into a public road.

(2) A road should be opened between Tengapattanam and Midalam.

(3) A grant-in-aid should be awarded to the Vishavaidyasala at Martandam. The municipality was not rich enough to give the grant.

(4) A Satrom should be established at Kuzhithura.

(5) The Ashtami day at Thirumala and the Bharani day at Kollencode should be declared as public holidays in the Vilavancode taluk.

(6) The Munsiff's court at Kuzhithura was now situated very near the Kuzhithura river. In the rainy season when the river flooded, it was very difficult to hold the court there. The Dewan had once promised to order the shifting of the court to another site. It could with advantage be shifted to the taluk cutcherry premises. If the court was so shifted, the present building might as of old be used as the Satrom.

DEWAN'S REPLY:—Mr. Appavoo, as you did not give notice of the points upon which you wished to make your representation, I regret I am not able to give you to-day answers on the several points on which you spoke.

119. Needs of the Shertallai taluk.

MR. MAITHEENKUNJU KOCHUNNI (*Member, Nominated*) dealt with the following needs of the Shertallai taluk :—

(1) The Puthan *todu* at Thannirmukkam should be connected with the Kattachira *todu* by a canal. The opening of this canal was sanctioned five years ago with the avowed object of helping irrigation in Charamangalam, Varanam and other places and affording facilities for trade at Puthanangadi. For want of the canal, the

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crops in nearly 2000 paras of paddy fields were submerged in water every year during the rainy season. The canal was now almost complete, and only three quarters of a mile remained to be opened. This should be finished soon.

(2) The Puthanangadi road should be connected with the A. S. road. The people of Charamangalam, Varanam, Srikantamangalam etc. had no access to the A. S. road. They could reach the road only by walking through knee-deep sand. If however a road was opened connecting the A. S. road with the Alleppey—Thannirmukkam village road, this difficulty could be easily removed.

(3) A road should be opened from Muhamma to Kanjikuzhi. Muhamma was a busy trading centre. There was a market and a bazaar at the place. It was necessary that there should be a connection by land between this place and Kanjikuzhi as the water route by the Vempanad lake was a dangerous one.

(4) There should be a police station near Varanam Puthanangady. There were more toddy shops in the Shertallai taluk than in any other taluk and also a corresponding number of criminal cases. From Puthanangadi to the Shertallai police station, the distance was 6 miles and to the Kanjikuzhi police station the distance was 8 miles. Moreover there were no police stations anywhere along the water route from Kuthiathode to Alleppey. Journey by this route was not therefore quite safe. Besides, at Puthanangadi there was a public market, where police supervision was absolutely necessary. For these reasons, a police station should be established at Puthanangadi.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Maitheen Kunju Kochunni, the first mile of the extension of the Tannirmukkam Puthen todu to the Kattachira todu is now being completed and the question of carrying out the remaining mile is now under consideration.

MEMBER: It is now five years since it was sanctioned. All the works which were done have now disappeared.

DEWAN: I shall ask the Chief Engineer to go into the matter again.

In regard to the extension of the Puttanangadi road to the A. S. road it will be investigated. So too with the Muhamma-Kanjikuzhi road.

MEMBER: The road was first constructed 30 feet wide, now the width is reduced to 15 feet.

DEWAN: The Police Commissioner is of opinion that a police station is not necessary at Puttanangadi.

MEMBER: That is very hard.

DEWAN: That is what the Police Commissioner reports.

120. Needs of the Shertallai taluk.

MR. N. R. KRISHNAN (*Member, Nominated*) said that the Ponnamveli market was one of the important markets in Shertallay. The chief articles of merchandise in this market consisted of coir, copra and fish. These were brought from the beach. But there was no proper way from the beach to this market. Articles could be brought from the beach by boat to the Paripilli canal. From there they had to be taken in head-loads through several private compounds. But the owners of these lands would allow people to go that way, only if they were paid for it. It was indeed very hard for poor people to pay this kind of bakshish out of what was their day's earning and sole means of maintenance. A road should therefore be constructed from the beach to the Ponnamveli market. It would only be a mile in length. The land required for the road had certainly to be acquired by Government. The landowners would not give the lands free, because by the opening of the road they would be losing a daily income.

Another need of the taluk was the early opening of the canal which Government had already sanctioned from the Paripilli canal to the Ponnamveli market.

Lastly, the English school at Shertallai should be converted into a High School and a separate school should be sanctioned for girls.

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